

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Amended) A trailer for delivering asphalt material to a paving machine comprising:
a trailer bed for holding asphalt material, wherein said trailer bed has a dump end;
a trailer frame having at least one axle; and
at least one hinge arm having a length separating two end portions wherein the a first one of said two end portions is fixed to said trailer bed a horizontal distance offset from said axle opposite the direction of said trailer bed dump end, and the a second one of said two end portions is mounted to said axle, and wherein said hinge arm is disposed at a non-vertical angle between said trailer bed and said trailer frame such that the closest connection between said trailer bed and said axle is non-vertical.

Claim 2. (Cancelled).

3. (Original) The trailer of claim 2 wherein said trailer includes at least two parallel hinge arms.
4. (Original) The trailer of claim 2 wherein said trailer includes at least two axles.
5. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said axle is mounted below said frame.

6. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said second end portion is pivotably mounted to said axle.
7. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a full length dump trailer.
8. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a semi-length dump trailer.
9. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a full frame trailer.
10. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a half frame trailer.
11. (Withdrawn) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer further comprises a mud flap bracket substantially parallel to said hinge arm attached to said trailer bed between said hinge arm and said trailer bed dump end.

Claims 12-16 (Cancelled).

17. (Amended) A trailer for delivering asphalt material to a paving machine comprising:
 - a trailer frame having a back portion;
 - a trailer bed mounted to said trailer frame for holding asphalt material wherein said trailer bed is movable between a lowered position and a raised position; and,

at least one hinge arm extending between connected to said trailer bed at a connection location and further connected to said trailer frame, wherein said closest connection between said trailer bed and said trailer frame is non-vertical, and wherein said hinge arm operates to move said connection location said trailer bed upward and backward relative to said trailer frame when said trailer is moved between said lowered position and said raised position.

Claims 18-23 (Cancelled).

24. (Amended) The trailer of claim 17, further comprising:
at least one axle mounted to said trailer frame;
wherein said at least one hinge arm is pivotably mounted connected to said at least one axle.

Claims 25 & 26 (Cancelled).

27. (Amended) The trailer of claim 17, wherein said at least one hinge arm further comprises:
~~a bed end and a frame end;~~
~~wherein said bed end is fixed to said trailer bed;~~
wherein said frame end is pivotably mounted connected to said trailer frame at a horizontal distance between the back portion of said trailer frame and said bed end.

28. (Amended). The trailer of claim 27, further comprising:

at least one axle mounted to said trailer frame;

wherein ~~the~~said frame end of said at least one hinge arm is pivotably mounted to ~~the~~at ~~least one~~said axle.

29. (Amended) The trailer of claim 28, wherein said trailer bed and said axle define a closest vertical distance, and wherein the length of said at least one hinge arm is greater than the closest vertical distance between said trailer bed and said trailer frame~~axle~~.

30. (Withdrawn) The trailer of claim 17, further comprising:

at least one mud flap unit having a bed end fixed to said trailer bed and a flap end having a mud flap;

wherein said at least one mud flap unit is substantially parallel to said at least one hinge arm.

31. (Withdrawn) A method for delivering asphalt material from a trailer to a paving machine hopper comprising:

providing a paving machine having an asphalt material hopper with a front panel;

providing a trailer having a bed portion containing asphalt material and a frame portion; and,

delivering asphalt material to said hopper by operating a hinge arm extending between said trailer bed portion and said trailer frame portion to move said bed portion upward and towards said hopper.

Claim 32. (Cancelled).

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31 wherein said hinge arm is disposed at a non-vertical angle between said bed portion and said frame portion.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31 wherein said bed portion includes a spill guard.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34 wherein said delivery step further comprises moving said spill guard over said front panel.

36. (New) A dump trailer for delivering material to a container with a front panel, comprising:

a trailer frame with a pivot location;

a dump bed with a raised position and a lowered position; and

a hinge arm attached to said dump bed and pivotably attached to said trailer frame at said pivot location, wherein said hinge arm is situated to allow the container front panel to pass through a line defined as passing through said pivot location and perpendicular to said dump bed

without said hinge arm contacting the front panel as said dump bed moves from said lowered position to said raised position.